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RED BLUFF WOMAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
FOR POSSESSING STOLEN U.S. MAIL

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that CRYSTAL CANDACE COOPER, 23, of Red Bluff was sentenced today by United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton to serve 37 months in federal prison and to pay restitution for all checks she fraudulently cashed. In addition, after serving at least 85 percent of her prison sentence, COOPER will be on supervised release for another three years.

This case is the product of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Red Bluff Police Department and the Tehama County Sheriff's Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Stegman, who prosecuted the case, in April and May of last year, COOPER took checks that were stolen from the mail and cashed them at a Bank of America and U.S. Bank, both in Red Bluff. In July of last year, COOPER was arrested for shoplifting at Raley's supermarket in Red Bluff. At the time of arrest, police found numerous checks in her purse that were stolen from the mail. Red Bluff Police then obtained a search warrant for COOPER's house in Red Bluff, and found over 250 pieces of stolen mail, \$179,827.59 in stolen checks, a U.S. Postal Service mail tub, and five U.S. Postal Service parcel locker keys.

A federal grand jury indicted COOPER for possession of stolen mail, and she entered a guilty plea to that charge on October 12, 2005.

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